

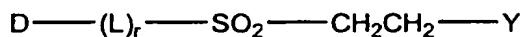
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A reactive dye compound comprising:

- (a) at least one chromophore moiety
- (b) at least one $\text{SO}_2\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ group which is attached to the chromophoric moiety either directly via the sulphur atom of the $\text{SO}_2\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ group or via a linking group L;

characterised in that at least one $\text{SO}_2\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ group is substituted on its terminal carbon atom with at least one Y group wherein Y is a phosphonate or borate derivative, preferably the phosphonate derivative is selected from phosphonates having the formula: $-\text{O}-(\text{P}=\text{O})(\text{OH})\text{R}'$ wherein R' is any suitable nucleophilic moiety which is not OH.

- 2. A reactive dye compound according to Claim 1 wherein Y is derived from aceto phosphonic acid.
- 3. A reactive dye compound having the formula (I):

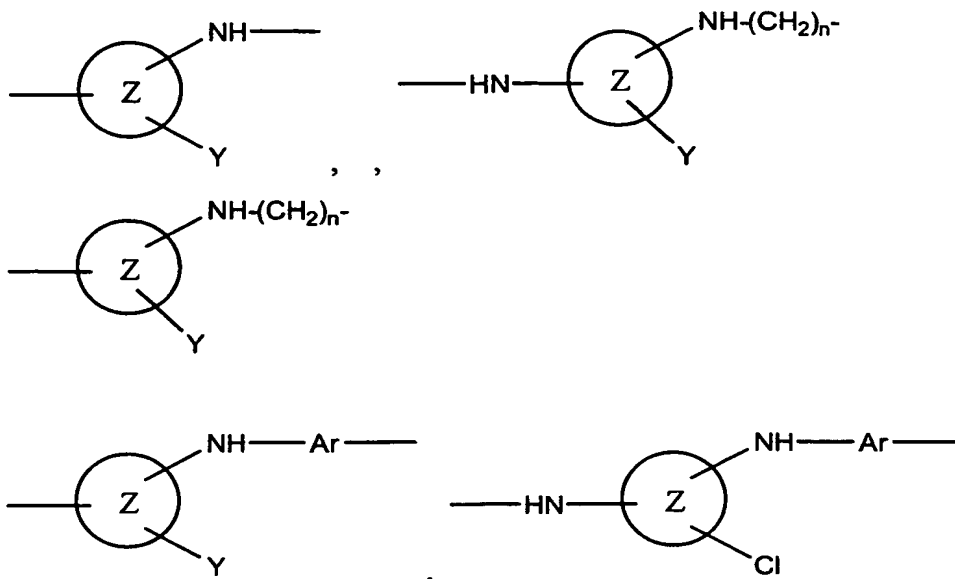


wherein: D is a chromophore group;

r is 0 or 1, preferably 0,

L is a linking group selected from:

NH, (CH₂)_n, N-(CH₂)_nN, -(CH₂)_n-N, NR (R is C1-C4 alkyl)



wherein Ar is an aryl group, preferably benzene, Y is as defined above, Z is a nitrogen-containing heterocycle, n is an integer of from 1 to 4;

and salts thereof.

4. A reactive dye compound according to Claim 3 wherein Z is selected from triazine, pyrimidine, quinoxaline, pyrimidinone, phthalazine, pyridazone and pyrazine.
5. A reactive dye compound according to Claim 3 or 4 wherein r is 0.
6. Use of a compound according to any of Claims 1 to 5 for dyeing cellulosic substrates, preferably cotton.
7. Use of a compound according to any of Claims 1 to 5 for dyeing wool.

8. Use of compound according to any of Claims 1 to 5 for dyeing polyamide substrates, preferably nylon.
9. Use of a compound according to any of Claims 1 to 5 for dyeing silk.
10. Use of compound according to any of Claims 1 to 5 for dyeing keratin.
11. Use of compound according to any of Claims 1 to 5 for dyeing leather.
12. A dye composition comprising the compound of any of Claims 1 to 5.
- Sub a1 13. A dye composition according to Claim 12 wherein the composition is in the form of a solid mixture and further comprises an acid buffer.
14. A dye composition according to Claim 12 wherein the composition is in the form of a liquid and further comprises water and an acid buffer.
15. A dye composition according to Claim 12 wherein the composition is in the form of a paste and further comprises water, thickening agent and an acid buffer.
16. A dye composition according to Claims 12 to 15 wherein the acid buffer is selected from citric acid, malic acid, fumaric acid and maleic acid, and mixtures thereof.
- Sub a2 17. A dye composition according to Claim 12 to 16 wherein the pH is preferably from about 2 to about 3.